

Attorney Docket No. LWEPI21US  
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/735,394  
Reply to Office Action of March 6, 2006  
Date: May 4, 2006

### Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0010]** The number 1 designates a U-shaped microscope housing that, however, is visible in a front view in FIG. 1. One limb 2 of this microscope housing 1 is visible, a focusing drive 21 for Z displacement of microscope stage 20 being indicated in the lower region of 2. Located in the upper region of limb 2 is a horizontal changing surface 3 that matches the corresponding changing surface 9a of module changing apparatus 9. The number 5 designates a horizontal base unit in which a first switchable element 11, for example a fully reflective mirror or a 50:50 beam splitter, is arranged. Following next along vertical optical axis 10 is a first tube lens 12. The imaging beam along optical axis 10 then encounters further deflection elements (not depicted) inside binocular tube 6. Proceeding from first optical element 11 is a horizontal partial beam – the so-called photo beam 13. It passes first through a second tube lens 14 and then encounters a second optical element 15, for example a deflection mirror. The vertical portion of photo beam 13 then passes through a photo tube 7 and from there into a photo device 8.

Please replace paragraph [0013] with the following amended paragraph:

**[0013]** FIG. 2 shows the actual inventive apparatus, i.e. combination module 4, in a manner similar to FIG. 1 in which the corresponding changing surface 9a component of module changing apparatus 9 of module 4 is attached to U-shaped microscope housing 1 at horizontal changing surface 3. In addition, the inverted microscope stand with its U-shaped chassis part is depicted in the drawing as if it had been rotated 90° into the plane of the drawing. Also visible is transmitted-light device 17, which in turn has been shown rotated 180°. The number 18 designates the specimen resting on microscope stage 20. Objective 19 that is depicted can, of course, also be an objective turret system.